

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3398

ANSWERED ON:30.11.2010

FOOD SECURITY .

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Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has assessed or received any inputs regarding the food security situation in several States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether drought, shortage of foodgrains and lack of adequate storage space is likely to have an adverse impact on the proposed comprehensive food security scheme; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) to (d) The Government allocates foodgrains at highly subsidized prices to all the States/UTs under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and other welfare schemes to ensure food security to the most vulnerable sections of the society. At present under TPDS, Government makes allocation of foodgrains to 6.52 crore Below Poverty Line families, including 2.43 crore Antyodaya Anna Yojana families @ 35 kg. per family per month. Allocation of foodgrains at subsidized rates is also made for Above Poverty Line families ranging between 15 kg. and 35 kg. per family per month in different States/UTs. There is no shortage of foodgrains and in fact to offload stocks, this Department has also made additional allocation of foodgrains. Additional allocations of foodgrains have also been made to the States/UTs in the wake of natural calamities like droughts, etc. Steps have been initiated to build additional storage capacity and there should be no adverse impact on proposed food security scheme.